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CHOKSHI, PINKAL R				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/561,617

**Applicant(s)**

YOSHIDA, NAOKI

**Examiner**

Pinkal R. Chokshi

**Art Unit**

2425

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 21-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 21-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/GS/US)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 02/16/2010 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. See the new rejection below.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. **Claim 1** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- Claim 1 recites the limitation "...the transaction content providing apparatus..." in lines 25-26 of pg.3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

**Claims 29-32** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 29-32 are claiming a recording medium that includes magnetic disk, optical disk, DVD, semiconductor memory or *the like* (§10193). Applicant can amend to include "non-transitory CRM" to the claim to limit the claim to an eligible (non-transitory) embodiment.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 21, 22, 24-26, 28-30, 32-34, and 36-48** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US PG Pub 2003/0115606 to Menez (hereafter referenced as Menez) in view of US PG Pub 2004/0034873 to Zenoni (hereafter referenced as Zenoni), JP Publication 09-162821 to Sakamoto (hereafter referenced as Sakamoto) and US PG Pub 2003/0093806 to Dureau et al (hereafter referenced as Dureau).

Regarding **claim 1**, "a content providing system" reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to "comprising: a receiver" Menez discloses (§0006) that the broadcaster send program information to digital receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (element 122).

As to "each one of the first broadcast apparatuses including: a program content providing unit that provides associated program content" Menez discloses (§0007 and §0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1.

As to "a second broadcast apparatus, including: a transaction content providing unit that provides transaction content for transmission to the receiver over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019 and §0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§0007, §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) is received from second service provider and is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen as represented in Fig. 1.

As to "the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types"

Menez discloses (§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to “each one of the first broadcast apparatuses further including: a trigger content providing unit that provides associated trigger content that serves as a trigger for reproducing a portion of the transaction content in the receiver” Menez discloses (§0007 and §0012) that the broadcasters send programs with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to “a combining unit that combines the associated program content and the associated trigger content for transmission to the receiver over its associated first broadcast channel as combined content ” Menez discloses (§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “wherein the receiver (a) receives the combined content transmitted over a selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels” Menez discloses (§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives the program identifier included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “(b) when the associated trigger content is triggered by a user while the receiver is receiving the program content associated with the selected one of

the plurality of first broadcast channels, (i) switches from receiving over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content, (iv) receives the transaction content provided by the transaction content providing apparatus over the second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "(v) extracts from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content, and (vi) causes reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.

As to "(c) when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels and again receives the associated program content" Menez discloses (§0020-§0025) that viewer

receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026 and §§0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the associated program content of each one of the plurality of first broadcast channels” Zenoni discloses (§§0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user’s watching.



As to “the trigger content including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates” Zenoni discloses (§§0033) that based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (§§0026, §§0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to “the receiver (i) switches from receiving over the first broadcast channel to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§§0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to “(v) extracts from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0027, §§0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A. Zenoni further discloses (§§0034) that upon user’s selection of another channel

trigger, STB processes information associated with that trigger as represented in Fig. 2C.

As to "(vi) causes reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information" Zenoni discloses (§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to "when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, the receiver switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content" Zenoni discloses (§0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez's system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to provide user with an option to receive information about the other content (§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except "the receiver switches a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the associated program content." However, Sakamoto discloses (§0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to lesson program when tennis program ends.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni's systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except "a plurality of first broadcast apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels." However, Dureau discloses (§§0034, §§0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to "(ii) extracts the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the associated trigger content, (iii) performs processing using the extracted program" Dureau discloses (§§0012, §§0041, §§0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto's systems by using multiple broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user's favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Regarding **claim 2**, “a content providing system wherein the receiver transmits, over a network, information inputted by the user based on the displayed transaction content and provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on the trigger content triggered by the user” Menez discloses (§0016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 4**, “a content providing system wherein the transaction content providing apparatus provides, over the second broadcast channel, common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates” Menez discloses (§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer's information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0026, §0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 1.

Regarding **claim 5**, “a content providing method” reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to “program content associated with that first broadcast channel” Menez discloses (§§0007 and §§0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “providing, at a second broadcast apparatus, transaction content for transmission to a receiver over a second broadcast channel, the transaction content including information incidental to the program content” Menez discloses (§§0019 and §§0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§§0007, §§0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) is received from second service provider and is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Menez discloses (§§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to "providing, for each one of the plurality of first broadcast apparatuses, associated trigger content that serves as a trigger for reproducing a portion of the transaction content in the receiver" Menez discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcasters send programs with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to "combining, at each one of the plurality of first broadcast apparatuses, the associated program content and the associated trigger content; transmitting, at each one of the plurality of first broadcast apparatuses, the associated combined content over its associated first broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to "receiving, at the receiver, the combined content transmitted over a selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels" Menez discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives the program identifier included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to "when the associated trigger content is triggered by a user while the receiver is receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, the receiver (i) switching from receiving over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content,

(iv) receiving the transaction content over the second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "(v) extracting from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content, and (vi) causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.

As to "(c) when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted in the receiver, the receiver switching from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels and again receives the associated program content" Menez discloses (§0020-§0025) that viewer receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except "receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel." However,

Zenoni discloses (§§0026 and §§0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the associated program content of each one of the plurality of first broadcast channels” Zenoni discloses (§§0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user’s watching.

As to “the trigger content including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates” Zenoni discloses (§§0033) that



based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (§§0026, §§0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to “the receiver (i) switches from receiving over the first broadcast channel to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§§0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to “(v) extracting from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0027, §§0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A. Zenoni further discloses (§§0034) that upon user’s selection of another channel trigger, STB processes information associated with that trigger as represented in Fig. 2C.

As to “(vi) causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information” Zenoni discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that based on the user’s selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video

clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to “when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, the receiver switching from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content” Zenoni discloses (§0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez’s system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to provide user with an option to receive information about the other content (§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except “the receiver switching a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the associated program content.” However, Sakamoto discloses (§0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to lesson program when tennis program ends. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni’s systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except "providing at each one of a plurality of first broadcast apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels." However, Dureau discloses (§¶0034, §¶0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to "(ii) extracting the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the associated trigger content, (iii) performing processing using the extracted program" Dureau discloses (§¶0012, §¶0041, §¶0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto's systems by using multiple broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user's favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Regarding **claim 6**, "a content providing method wherein the receiver transmits, over a network, information inputted by the user based on the displayed transaction content and provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on the trigger content triggered by the

user” Menez discloses (§§0016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 8**, “a content providing method wherein common content within the transaction content is common to two or more of the plurality of templates” Menez discloses (§§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer’s information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that based on the user’s selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 5.

Regarding **claim 21**, “a content receiver” reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to “each of the content providing apparatus provides combined program content trigger content respectively associated with that first broadcast

channel" Menez discloses (§§0007, §§0014, §§0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to "receiver comprising: receiving means that receives the combined program content and trigger content provided by a selected one of a plurality of program content providing apparatuses over its associated first broadcast channel or that receives a transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§§0007 and §§0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1. Menez also discloses (§§0019 and §§0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §§0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§§0007, §§0014, §§0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to "the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels serving as a trigger for reproducing the transaction content" Menez discloses (§§0007, §§0014, §§0021) that the receiver

receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver. Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcasters send programs with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to "the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types" Menez discloses (§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to "judging means that judges whether the portion of transaction content is indicated based on triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels while the associated program content is received on the selected first broadcast channel by the receiving means and switching control means that, (a) when the judging means judges that the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels is triggered, causes the receiving means to (i) switch from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content" Menez discloses (§§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through

program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§0019) that the viewer at the receiver receives and watches program when a program identifier initiates on display screen. When user selects this identifier on the screen, receiver connects to a server to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "(iv) receives the transaction content provided by the transaction content providing apparatus over the second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "(v) extract from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and (vi) cause reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.

As to “(b) when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, causes the receiving means to switch from receiving over the second broadcast channel to again receiving over the first broadcast channel” Menez discloses (§§0020-§§0025) that viewer receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026 and §§0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the plurality of program content” Zenoni discloses (§§0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up



and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user's watching.

As to "the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates" Zenoni discloses (§0033) that based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (§0026, §0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to "(i) switch from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content" Zenoni discloses (§0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to "(v) extract from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger

content” Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A.

As to “(iv) cause reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information” Zenoni discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that based on the user’s selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to “when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content” Zenoni discloses (§§0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez’s system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to receive up-to-date information about the content (§§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except “switches a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the program content.” However, Sakamoto discloses (§§0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to

lesson program when tennis program ends. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni's systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except "a plurality of program content providing apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels." However, Dureau discloses (§§0034, §§0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to "(ii) extract the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the associated trigger content, (iii) perform processing using the extracted program" Dureau discloses (§§0012, §§0041, §§0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto's systems by using multiple broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user's favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Regarding **claim 22**, “a content receiver further comprising transmitting means that transmits, via a network, information inputted from the user based on the displayed transaction content and provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on trigger content triggered by the user” Menez discloses (§§0016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 24**, “a content receiver wherein common content within the transaction content is common to two or more of the plurality of templates” Menez discloses (§§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer's information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 21.

Regarding **claim 25**, "a content receiving method" reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to "each of the content providing apparatus provides combined program content trigger content respectively associated with that first broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to "a first receiving step or receiving the combined program content and trigger content provided by a selected one of a plurality of program content providing apparatuses over its associated first broadcast channel or that receives a transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1. Menez also discloses (§§0019 and §0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier,

associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels serving as a trigger for reproducing the transaction content” Menez discloses (§§0007, §§0014, §§0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver. Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §§0012) that the broadcasters send programs with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Menez discloses (§§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to “a judging step of judging whether the portion of transaction content is indicated by a user based on triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels while the associated program content is received on the selected first broadcast channel, the transaction content including information incidental to the program content when it is judged during the judging step that the transaction content is

indicated, a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels" Menez discloses (§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§0019) that the viewer at the receiver receives and watches program when a program identifier initiates on display screen. When user selects this identifier on the screen, receiver connects to a server to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second receiving step of receiving the transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.

As to "when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, a second switching control step of switching from receiving over the second broadcast channel to again receiving the associated program content over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels" Menez discloses (§0020-§0025) that viewer receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except "receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel." However, Zenoni discloses (§0026 and §0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to "the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types"



Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the plurality of program content” Zenoni discloses (§§0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user’s watching.

As to “the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates” Zenoni discloses (§§0033) that based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (§§0026, §§0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to “a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§¶0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to “a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger content” Zenoni discloses (§¶0026, §¶0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A.

As to “a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information” Zenoni discloses (§¶0033-§¶0035) that based on the user’s selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to “when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content” Zenoni discloses (§¶0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user

selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez's system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to receive up-to-date information about the content (§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except "switches a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the program content." However, Sakamoto discloses (§0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to lesson program when tennis program ends. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni's systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except "a plurality of program content providing apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels." However, Dureau discloses (§0034, §0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to “a first extracting step of extracting the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a processing step of performing processing using the extracted program” Dureau discloses (§§0012, §§0041, §§0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto’s systems by using multiple broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user’s favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Regarding **claim 26**, “a content receiving method further comprising a transmitting step of transmitting, via a network, information inputted from the user based on the displayed transaction content and provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on trigger content triggered by the user” Menez discloses (§§0016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 28**, “a content receiving method wherein common content within the transaction content is common to two or more of the plurality of

templates” Menez discloses (§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer's information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0026, §0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 25.

Regarding **claim 29**, “a recording medium having recorded therein a computer readable program for carrying out content receiving method” reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to “each of the content providing apparatus provides combined program content trigger content respectively associated with that first broadcast channel” Menez discloses (§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “a first receiving step or receiving the combined program content and trigger content provided by a selected one of a plurality of program content providing apparatuses over its associated first broadcast channel or that receives a transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel” Menez discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1. Menez also discloses (§§0019 and §0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels serving as a trigger for reproducing the transaction content” Menez discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver. Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcasters send programs

with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to "the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types" Menez discloses (§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to "a judging step of judging whether the portion of transaction content is indicated by a user based on triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels while the associated program content is received on the selected first broadcast channel, the transaction content including information incidental to the program content when it is judged during the judging step that the transaction content is indicated, a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels" Menez discloses (§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program

displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§0019) that the viewer at the receiver receives and watches program when a program identifier initiates on display screen. When user selects this identifier on the screen, receiver connects to a server to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second receiving step of receiving the transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.



As to “when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, a second switching control step of switching from receiving over the second broadcast channel to again receiving the associated program content over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels” Menez discloses (§§0020-§§0025) that viewer receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026 and §§0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the plurality of program content” Zenoni discloses

(¶0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user's watching.

As to "the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates" Zenoni discloses (¶0033) that based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (¶0026, ¶0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to "a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content" Zenoni discloses (¶0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to "a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger content" Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A.

As to "a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information" Zenoni discloses (§§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to "when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content" Zenoni discloses (§0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez's system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to receive up-to-date information about the content (§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except "switches a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the

first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the program content.”

However, Sakamoto discloses (§§0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to lesson program when tennis program ends. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni’s systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except “a plurality of program content providing apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels.” However, Dureau discloses (§§0034, §§0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to “a first extracting step of extracting the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a processing step of performing processing using the extracted program” Dureau discloses (§§0012, §§0041, §§0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto’s systems by using multiple

broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user's favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau meets all the limitations of the claim except "computer readable program is recorded in the storage medium." However, the examiner takes official notice that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to store computer program on computer recordable medium. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to store computer readable program on recoded medium to Menez and Sakamoto's systems would have yielded predictable result of easily installing program on other computer devices.

Regarding **claim 30**, "a recording medium wherein the method further comprises a transmitting step of transmitting, via a network, information inputted from the user based on the displayed transaction content and provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on trigger content triggered by the user" Menez discloses (§10016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 32**, "a recording medium wherein common content within the transaction content is common to two or more of the plurality of templates"

Menez discloses (§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer's information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except "common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates." However, Zenoni discloses (§0026, §0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 29.

Regarding **claim 33**, "a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out a content receiving method" reads on the digital broadcasting network that provides program contents to receiver (abstract) disclosed by Menez and represented in Fig. 1 (element 101).

As to "each of the content providing apparatus provides combined program content trigger content respectively associated with that first broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “a first receiving step or receiving the combined program content and trigger content provided by a selected one of a plurality of program content providing apparatuses over its associated first broadcast channel or that receives a transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel” Menez discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcaster transmits programs to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1. Menez also discloses (§§0019 and §0022) that the another service provider (145) transmits the transaction content to the receiver using the back channel of modem as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 145, 124). Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver.

As to “the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels serving as a trigger for reproducing the transaction content” Menez discloses (§§0007, §0014, §0021) that the receiver receives program identifier, associated with the program, where the program identifier is included within the program information received at the receiver. Menez further discloses (§§0007 and §0012) that the broadcasters send programs

with program identifier, which initiates an icon on the display screen to purchase transaction for a sale of item associated with the program as represented in Fig. 1 (element 125).

As to "the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types" Menez discloses (§0022) that the transaction content (electronic form) provided to the consumer includes different information relating to the transaction content such as delivery address, payment/billing options, etc.

As to "a judging step of judging whether the portion of transaction content is indicated by a user based on triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels while the associated program content is received on the selected first broadcast channel, the transaction content including information incidental to the program content when it is judged during the judging step that the transaction content is indicated, a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels" Menez discloses (§0007 and §0022) that based on the program selected through program identifier, an electronic form (transaction content) received from provider is displayed to viewer on the same channel, where the transaction content is associated with the selectable program



displayed on the screen. Menez further discloses (§0019) that the viewer at the receiver receives and watches program when a program identifier initiates on display screen. When user selects this identifier on the screen, receiver connects to a server to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second receiving step of receiving the transaction content provided by a transaction content providing apparatus over a second broadcast channel" Menez discloses (§0019) that while the viewer at the receiver is watching a program on the display, a program identifier initiates on display screen, where upon user selection of this identifier displayed on the screen, receiver connects to the server 145 via modem (second channel) to obtain proposed transactions for the sale of a product provided to consumer via display screen.

As to "a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more templates associated with the identifiers included in the associated trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted templates" Menez discloses (§0019) that based on user's selection of the identifier associated with the program, STB receives the transaction content, processes it, and present the transaction content to the consumer on the display.

As to “when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, a second switching control step of switching from receiving over the second broadcast channel to again receiving the associated program content over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels” Menez discloses (§§0020-§§0025) that viewer receives the transaction screen while watching a program and once transaction is completed, server completes sale and bill subscribers as represented in Fig. 2.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “receiver receives the combined content transmitted over the first broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0026 and §§0027) that the triggered content is inserted into regular broadcast content, where MUX combines these contents and transmitted to Set-top box as represented in Fig. 1.

As to “the transaction content including a plurality of templates, at least some of the plurality of templates corresponding to various transaction types” Zenoni discloses (§§0022, §§0032) that the GUI is provided on the television, where user is provided with multiple templates to choose from the GUI as represented in Fig. 2A (element 202). Zenoni further discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that the different buttons (templates) provides different transaction types that matches with the specific templates such as channel change button changes channel, enhanced button provides web page, etc.

As to “the transaction content further including a plurality of replacement information incidental to the plurality of program content” Zenoni discloses

(¶0032) that while the user is watching a program on one channel, GUI pops up and provides user with option to go to a web page or change channel, where these options are not related to channel user's watching.

As to "the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels including a program to be executed in response to the associated trigger content being triggered, one or more identifiers respectively associated with at least one of one or more of the plurality of templates or one or more of the plurality of replacement information for insertion into the one or more of the plurality templates" Zenoni discloses (¶0033) that based on the trigger displayed on the screen, when user selects a trigger a video program is executed and displayed on the screen as represented in Figs. 2A and 2B. Zenoni further discloses (¶0026, ¶0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast.

As to "a first switching control step of switching from receiving the combined content transmitted over the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels to receiving over the second broadcast channel in response to the triggering of the trigger content" Zenoni discloses (¶0034) that based on the triggered displayed on the screen, when user selects the channel button, the set-top box switches from the broadcast content playing on current channel to different content playing on second broadcast channel as represented in Fig. 2.

As to "a second extracting step of extracting from the received transaction content the one or more replacement information associated with the identifiers included in the trigger content" Zenoni discloses (§§0026, §§0045) that the trigger is multiplexed with regular broadcast audio/video and transmitted to receiver, where receiver displays trigger, by extracting trigger, to the user as represented in Fig. 2A.

As to "a causing step of causing reproduction of at least some of the transaction content based on the extracted replacement information" Zenoni discloses (§§0033-§§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D.

As to "when end of viewing of the transaction content is inputted, switches from receiving over the second broadcast channel to receiving over the first broadcast channel and again receives the program content" Zenoni discloses (§§0046) that the receiver switches back to original broadcast when the user selected content is over as represented in Fig. 6. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez's system by switching the programming content to the triggered content as taught by Zenoni in order to receive up-to-date information about the content (§§0006).

Combination of Menez and Zenoni meets all the limitations of the claim except "switches a broadcast channel from the second broadcast channel to the

first broadcast channel when it ends and again receives the program content.”

However, Sakamoto discloses (§¶0051) that while the receiver was receiving the lesson program, user selects to watch tennis program and it switches back to lesson program when tennis program ends. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez and Zenoni’s systems by switching the program when the requested program ends as taught by Sakamoto so the viewer does not have to change the program manually when the requested program ends.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto meets all the limitations of the claim except “a plurality of program content providing apparatuses respectively associated with transmission over a plurality of first broadcast channels.” However, Dureau discloses (§¶0034, §¶0035) that the plurality of sources, associated with the transmitter, transmits contents to the receiver as represented in Fig. 1 (elements 13, 14, 15).

As to “a first extracting step of extracting the program to be executed and the one or more identifiers from the trigger content respectively associated with the selected one of the plurality of first broadcast channels, and a processing step of performing processing using the extracted program” Dureau discloses (§¶0012, §¶0041, §¶0045) that the receiving device extracts the identified desired program and process the stream as represented in Fig. 4. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, and Sakamoto’s systems by using multiple

broadcasting sources to transmit content to receiver that extracts specific program as taught by Dureau in order to provide user's favorite programming from the list of programming contents using all the available sources.

Combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau meets all the limitations of the claim except "computer readable program is recorded in the storage medium." However, the examiner takes official notice that it was well known in the art at the time of the invention to store computer program on computer recordable medium. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to store computer readable program on recoded medium to Menez and Sakamoto's systems would have yielded predictable result of easily installing program on other computer devices.

Regarding **claim 34**, "a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out the content receiving method wherein the method further comprises a transmitting step of transmitting, via a network, information inputted from the user based on the displayed transaction content provided to an information processing apparatus that performs processing based on trigger content triggered by the user" Menez discloses (§0016) that the receiver transmits information to servers via communication network as represented in Fig. 1 (element 140).

Regarding **claim 36**, “a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out a content receiving method wherein common content within the transaction content is common to two or more of the plurality of templates” Menez discloses (§0012) that the viewer can purchase copy of the same broadcast program received in receiver by filling electronic form with viewer's information on the display device.

Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “common content within the transaction content that is common to two or more of the plurality of templates.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0026, §0028) that the trigger containing a link to a web page, a channel change, video template, etc. is inserted into the regular broadcast. Zenoni further discloses (§0033-§0035) that based on the user's selection of video or enhanced buttons, a video clip or a web page will be activated and displayed to the user as represented in Figs. 2B, 2C, 2D. In addition, same motivation is used as rejection to claim 33.

Regarding **claim 37**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “a content providing system wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 1.

Regarding **claim 38**, “a content providing system wherein the transaction content providing apparatus provides, as the portion of transaction content, content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity” Menez discloses (§§0016, §§0019, §§0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

Regarding **claim 39**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “a content providing method wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 5.

Regarding **claim 40**, “a content providing method wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity” Menez discloses (§§0016, §§0019, §§0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where



viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

Regarding **claim 41**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “a content receiver wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 21.

Regarding **claim 42**, “a content receiver wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity” Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

Regarding **claim 43**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except “a content receiving method wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel.” However, Zenoni discloses (§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the

TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 25.

Regarding **claim 44**, "a content receiving method wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

Regarding **claim 45**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except "a recording medium wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel." However, Zenoni discloses (§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 29.

Regarding **claim 46**, "a recording medium wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024)

that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

Regarding **claim 47**, Menez meets all the limitations of the claim except "a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out a content receiving method wherein the trigger content includes a switching command, and a designated channel for the second broadcast channel." However, Zenoni discloses (§0034) that the triggering content displayed on the TV let user switches channel from current channel to another broadcast channel, which displays a basketball game or weather channel, etc. In addition, same motivation is used as to reject claim 33.

Regarding **claim 48**, "a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out a content receiving method wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the viewer to input information necessary for purchasing a commodity" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

8. **Claims 3, 7, 23, 27, 31, and 35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menez in view of Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of US PG Pub 2003/0018966 to Cook (hereafter referenced as Cook).

Regarding **claim 3**, "a content providing system wherein the transaction content providing apparatus provides, as the portion of the transaction content, content for causing the user while viewing the displayed program content to input a response to a questionnaire" Menez discloses (§¶0016, ¶0019, ¶0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§¶0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§¶0012).

Regarding **claim 7**, “a content providing method wherein the portion of the transaction content is content for causing the user while viewing the displayed program content to input a response to a questionnaire” Menez discloses (§§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§0012).

Regarding **claim 23**, “a content receiver wherein the receiving means receives, as the portion of the transaction content, content for causing the user while viewing the displayed program content to input a response to a questionnaire” Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information

such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§0012).

Regarding **claim 27**, "a content receiving method wherein in the portion of transaction content is content for causing the user while viewing the program content to input a response to a questionnaire" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information

such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§0012).

Regarding **claim 31**, "a recording medium wherein the portion of transaction content is content for causing the user while viewing the program content to input a response to a questionnaire" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§0012).

Regarding **claim 35**, "a processor encoded with a computer program for carrying out the content receiving method wherein the portion of the transaction content is content for causing the user while viewing the program content to input a response to a questionnaire" Menez discloses (§0016, §0019, §0024) that the viewer selects the program identifier displayed on the screen, where viewer enters information such as delivery address, payment information, etc to service provider to purchase a product.

However, combination of Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau does not explicitly teach that the transaction content causes a user to input a response to a questionnaire. Cook discloses (§0039) that based on the content choices displayed to the user, user selects a content where he/she provides information such as answers to questionnaires as represented in Fig. 5A. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to modify Menez, Zenoni, Sakamoto and Dureau's systems by using a user inputted questionnaires as taught by Cook in order to provide user specific targeting information (§0012).

### ***Conclusion***

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
  - US PG Pub 2010/0057813 to Abe



Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PINKAL CHOKSHI whose telephone number is (571) 270-3317. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8 - 5 pm (Alt. Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Pendleton can be reached on 571-272-7527. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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